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A Detroit study investigated the personality differences between typical urban Negroes and Whites. Subjects included 416 whites and 200 negroes over the age of 14. The following instruments were administered to all subjects: (1) the Cantor short form of the Barron Ego Strength scale, (2) the Eysenek Personality Inventory, (3) the Cameron Religious Dimensions scale, (4) the Sarrason Hostility scale, (5) the Birdie Masculinity-femininity check list, and (6) a set of rating scales. Results indicated: (1) similar scores for Negroes and Whites for the ego strength, extroversion, lie, masculinity-femininity, and liking-others-scale; (2) Negroes tested less "hostile", less neurotic, more religious, and claimed to feel better liked by people-in-general than whites. With respect to this latter result, post-hoc interviews of Negroes not involved in the study indicated that the sample Negroes might have interpreted the question as referring to other Negroes. Although not much confidence can be placed in this study's results because of its high rejection rate, it gains merit for using representative samples. (LS)

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Personality Differences Between Typical Urban Negroes and Whites

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Apparently only two studies comparing the personality structure of whites and negroes have been carried out on anything approximating a representative sample of the populations (Karon, 1958; Veroff, Atkinson, Feld, & Gurin, 1960). Both utilized projective tests, and only the Karon claims breadth of personaltiy coverage. The present research explored the possibility of using the more immediately intelligable pencil and paper scales with a representative sample of each race in Detroit.

Method

An area-sample of 38 systematically-drawn census tracts within the city yielded 416 whites and 200 negroes over the age of 14 (48% of the whites and 42% of the negroes contacted refused an interview, there were no call backs). 250 college student interviewers (approximately 4/5 were white) administered the following intruments to Ss irrespective of race (age and sex were the scheduling factors): 1) the Cantor short form of the Barron Ego Strength scale, 2) the Eysenck Personality Inventory, 3) the Cameron Religious Dimensions scale, 4) the Sarrason Hostility scale, 5) the Berdie Masculinity-Femininity check list, and 6) a set of rating scales (including, 'how much do you like people-in-general?' and 'how much do people-in-general like you?'). S took either 3 or 4 of the scales to

limit test-taking time to half an hour according to a schedule which assured proportionate administration of scales as well as a complete correlation matrix.

Results and Discussion

The means and variances of both samples were for the most part not statistically significantly different from published norms. Thus we found no evidence that reading and/or meaning difficulties "piled up" on the negro end of negro-white comparisons. We might profitably pursue the use of the more reliable and valid paper and pencil scales in assessment of negro-white differences in personality.

The means and variances of the white and negro samples were pretty-much equal for the ego-strength, extraversion, lie, masculinity-femininity, and liking for others scales (see attatched tables). Negroes: 1) tested less 'hostile', 2) tested less neurotic, 3) tested more religious, and 4) claimed to feel better liked by people-in-general than whites. We are less than satisfied with our selection of the Sarrason hostility scale for in retrospect many of the items would seem more appropriate in an 'assertiveness' scale; that is, it seems as though our results could be better interpreted as showing negroes less assertive (which would jibe with their lower rejection rate and tendency toward greater candor). Negro's lower neuroticism

(or instability) score seems plausible -- one must be 'in control' to survive in a society that discriminates against him at every turn. Negro's greater religiosity is reasonable from a Marxian perspective -- an overtly oppressed people needs even more 'opiate'. The only difference that doesn't make immediate sense is the finding that negroes claim greater liking from others. This could be a use of denial or even a chance result, but post hoc interviews with other negroes suggested that the sample negroes might have interpreted the question as refering to other negroes (as we couldn't really not know how the generalized other regarded them).

Conclusions

A definitive study of negro and white personality differences is long overdue considering the raft of articles reporting the comparison of non-representative samples of negroes and whites. With our rather high rejection rate not too much confidence can be placed in our results, but the data do look like other data using the same scales where the rejection rate was less than 5% (Cameron, 1967a, 1967b, 1968). At least our study has the merit of possibly contributing in some small measure to the answering of the question of kinds of personality differences between whites and negroes, while most of the research in the area has been performed upon such wildly unrepresentative samples (college students, incarcerates, etc.) that they cannot.

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Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Race x Sex x Age)
For the Berdie Masculinity-Femininity Scale

	White			Negro		
Age	< 20	20-35	35>	<20	20-35	35>
N	52	56	44	13	15	19
Male	8.71	10.38	6.66	5.92	9.33	9.00
S.D.	7.53	9.21	8.28	7.29	6.00	7.48
N	32	56	47	24	23	21
Female	12.41	14.88	13.91	14.25	15.13	13.29
S.D.	9.67	8.50	10.24	7.14	7.36	6.89

	df	MS	F
Age	2	130.5	1.84
Sex	1	2499.5	34.5 ***
Race	1	.03	
B x A	2	5.1	
B x C	1	18.9	
A x C	2	14.4	
A x B x C	2	94.8	
Within	390	71.0	

*** P < .001

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Eysenck (EPI) Lie Scale

	White			Negro				df	MS	F
Age	<20	20-35	35>	<20	20-35	35>	Age	2	37.08	10.5***
							Sex	1	5.54	
N	49	45	41	15	24	23	Race	1	4.21	
Male	2.73	2.51	3.71	3.00	2.33	3.61	B x A	2	5.32	
SD	1.67	1.62	1.87	1.77	1.93	2.31	B x C	1	4.07	
							A x C	2	.04	
N	36	48	40	29	39	23	A x B x C	2	1.25	
Female	2.55	2.79	3.50	1.93	2.46	3.17	Within	400	3.54	
SD	2.30	1.81	2.09	1.75	1.59	2.01				

*** P < .001

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Eysenck Extraversion Scale (EPI)

	White			Negro		
Age	<20	20-35	35>	20	20-35	35>
N	49	46	42	15	24	22
Male	14.08	13.93	10.12	13.60	13.37	10.77
SD	5.07	3.88	3.76	5.11	3.74	3.82
N	35	48	41	29	38	23
Female	14.11	13.04	10.88	13.76	12.26	11.13
SD	4.00	3.59	3.98	3.33	3.88	3.60

	df	MS	F
Age	2	330.74	20.6***
Sex	1	1.24	
Race	1	4.07	
B x A	2	19.38	
B x C	1	0.59	
A x C	2	10.45	
A x B x C	2	0.55	
Within	400	16.05	

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Judged Liking by Others
(negatively scaled)

	White			Negro		
Age	20	20-35	35	20	20-35	35
N	75	75	59	21	32	29
Male	3.57	3.36	3.68	2.95	2.94	2.93
SD	1.34	1.47	1.52	1.60	1.74	1.36
N	51	80	63	37	45	29
Female	3.55	3.31	3.05	2.57	3.02	2.76
SD	1.32	1.26	1.52	1.28	1.39	1.66

	df	MS	F
Age	2	.17	
Sex	1	4.78	
Race	1	38.90	18.9***
B x A	2	1.84	
B x C	1	.18	
A x C	2	2.11	
A x B x C	2	1.76	
Within	584	2.05	

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Barron Ego-Strength Scale

	White			Negro		
Age	‹20	20-35	35›	‹20	20-35	35›
N	51	46	36	13	20	19
Male	32.27	34.43	33.47	29.15	35.90	32.11
SD	6.82	7.56	8.73	6.27	9.22	7.79
N	32	56	48	21	27	13
Female	28.16	31.21	32.02	28.52	32.04	29.08
SD	9.62	6.26	7.91	3.61	4.74	5.71

	df	MS	F
Age	2	375.61	6.96**
Sex	1	554.10	10.03**
Race	1	47.53	
B x A	2	12.79	
B x C	1	3.35	
A x C	2	74.31	
A x B x C	2	45.39	
Within	370	53.91	

** P ‹ .01

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Liking of Others
(negatively scaled)

	White			Negro		
Age	<20	20-35	35>	<20	20-35	35>
N	74	75	59	21	32	30
Male	2.78	3.04	3.08	2.71	2.91	2.73
SD	1.37	1.57	1.63	1.35	1.63	1.41
N	52	81	65	37	46	29
Female	2.33	2.79	2.32	2.49	3.00	2.45
SD	1.41	1.51	1.38	1.43	1.48	1.62

	df	MS	F
Age	2	5.98	2.68
Sex	1	12.45	5.63*
Race	1	.01	
B x A	2	2.10	
B x C	1	3.85	
A x C	2	.33	
A x B x C	2	.16	
Within	589	2.21	

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Sarrason Hostility Scale
(interpreted as more likely an assertiveness scale)

	White			Negro		
Age	‹20	20-35	35›	‹20	20-35	35›
N	44	51	34	16	24	18
Male	11.93	11.65	8.06	11.69	10.04	7.17
SD	3.93	4.15	5.50	4.06	3.80	3.36
N	35	45	38	27	34	19
Female	11.17	9.76	7.50	9.85	8.56	7.74
SD	4.31	3.72	4.65	4.14	3.89	3.56

	df	MS	F
Age	2	366.69	20.9***
Sex	1	83.04	4.76*
Race	1	58.96	3.37 (P ‹.07)
B x A	2	22.05	
B X C	1	.49	
A x C	2	8.14	
A x B x C	2	8.87	
Within	373	17.46	

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For Eysenck (EPI) Neuroticism Scale

	White			Negro		
Age	<20	20-35	35>	20	20-35	35>
N	51	45	42	15	24	23
Male	11.06	10.47	8.74	12.33	7.25	6.70
SD	5.45	5.26	5.58	3.44	4.05	4.14
N	35	48	41	29	38	23
Female	12.26	12.08	9.95	11.90	9.66	8.96
SD	5.07	5.13	4.98	4.73	4.79	4.88

	df	MS	F
Age	2	336.20	13.5***
Sex	1	172.52	6.89**
Race	1	152.47	6.12*
B x A	2	23.14	
B x C	1	.08	
A x C	2	82.64	3.29*
A x B x C	2	16.63	
Within	402	24.88	

*** P < .001
** P < .01
* P < .05

Three-Way Fixed Effects Analysis of Variance (Age x Sex x Race)
For the Cameron Religious Dimensions Scale
(negatively scaled)

	White			Negro		
Age	<20	20-35	35	<20	20-35	35
N	54	54	45	11	18	22
Male	13.04	13.33	10.40	9.73	13.61	9.27
S.D.	4.56	5.32	4.41	3.26	5.81	4.78
N	32	60	40	25	28	26
Female	10.81	11.33	9.17	9.76	10.86	7.85
S.D.	3.60	4.03	3.18	4.02	4.48	3.12

	df	MS	F
Age	2	265.3	14.2***
Sex	1	210.2	11.3***
Race	1	112.3	5.99*
B x A	2	12.8	
B x C	1	3.8	
A x C	2	29.7	
A x B x C	2	17.6	
Within	403	18.7	

*** P < .001
* P < .05